

PATENT  
Attorney Docket: 91752

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application )  
Applicant: URA et al. )  
Serial No.: Unassigned )  
(divisional of 09/890,943) )  
Filed: March 24, 2004 )  
For: **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR WASHING** )  
**DRAIN PIPE** )

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that may be material to the examination of this application. The listed Documents are enclosed herewith.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

The cited document(s) disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each

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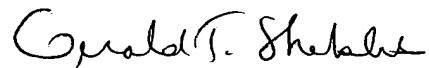
and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the document(s) and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document(s) herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and document(s) recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

**WELSH & KATZ, LTD.**



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Dated: March 24, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO				<b><i>Complete if Known</i></b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Application Number	Unassigned
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	March 23, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Kimasaru URA
				Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	91752

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T6
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP-555-20380	02/08/1980			
		JP S49-37403	10/14/1974			
		JP S54-110658	08/30/1979			
		JP 08-187474	07/23/1996	Takasu Hiroyasu		Abstract

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

OTHER ART. NOT A PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST .3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST .16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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